Imposition of economic sanctions against South Africa by U.S.A.

32. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the fact that the American Congress has decided to impose stringent economic sanctions against South Africa;

(b) if so, what specific steps have since been taken by the U.S. Government to impose such sanctions in the light of the resolutions recently passed at the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Summit Meet and the Commonwealth Conference;

(c) whether British Government and their European allies have also reviewed their stand with respect to imposing of economic sanctions against South Africa; and

(d) what is the reaction of the Government of India in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Government of India has seen reports of the passing of a law in USA last week on the basis of the US Congress overriding the Presidential veto of a Congressional Bill to impose further economic sanctions against South Africa. The law provides, among other things, for a ban on US investment and bank loans; terminates US landing rights for South African airways; and prohibits US imports of South African uranium, coal, steel, textiles, military vehicles, agricultural products and food.

(c) and (d) The European Economic Community which includes Britain, decided in the middle of September to ban new investments in South Africa and stop imports of iron, steel and gold coins from that country. These measures fall far short of the universal comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa advocated by India. They are also far short of the measures applied by India itself and those agreed upon by the Commonwealth leaders.

Nuclear disarmament

33. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in his address to the U.N. General Assembly in September, 1986. he called upon the nuclear power States other than the two big nuclear powers, the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R., to decide on nuclear disarmament independently without waiting for the super powers to take such a step; and

(b) if so, what was the response of the different nuclear power States thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) After reminding the US and USSR of their responsibility for halting the nuclear arms race and for nuclear disarmament, the External Affairs Minister stated that other nuclear weapons States also must not shirk their responsibility. A decision on their part for nuclear disarmament would only have a positive effect. They should no longer take shelter behind positions that they would disarm only if the two Super Powers did.

Anti-Apartheid action plan

34. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive antiapartheid action plan was evolved at the Harare Summit of the non-Aligned Meet;

(b) if so, what are the details of the action plan; and

(c) whether Government are aware of the steps taken by each member country in the light thereof and what action has been taken by the Government of India in regard therto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The Harare Summit devoted special attention to concerted and concrete action by nonaligned countries to combat South

Africa's policies of apartheid, colonial occupation of Namibia and destabilisation of neighbouring African States. It called for early convening of the Security Council to impose comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the UN Charter. Pending their adoption, the Summit identified and endorsed some specific meaures and commended their adoption by the international community. The Summit established the AFRICA (Action for Resisting Invasion Colonialism and Apartheid) Fund. It also set up a Committee of Ministers to canvass for imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa and visit some key industrialised countries in this connection.

As Chairman of the AFRICA Fund Committee India has been consulting with other members on the future operation of the Fund. Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Eduardo Faleiro, has recently visited all the Front Line States to ascertain their priority requirements on the basis on which an Action Plan for the Fund is being formulated. The Fund Committee is expected to meet at various levels before the end of December, External Affairs Minister is currently on a tour by selected Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers of some West Eruopean capitals and Tokyo in an effort to persuade Governments of industrialised countries to impose comprehensive sanctions against South Africa.

Presence of Soviet submarines in Nicobar Island

35. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state what is Government's reaction to the allegation made by a senior Indonesian Armed Forces Officer that soviet submarines had a base in Nicobar island?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : It is well-known fact that Government of India does not give base facility on its soil to the armed forces of any foreign power. The Indonesian Ambassador in New Delhi was called at the Ministry of External Affairs and an aide memoire expressing Government's concern and deep regret over the incorrect statement made by a senior official of the Government of Indonesia was handed over to him.

Self Employment Programme for Urban poor

36. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE :
SHRI K. MOHANAN :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the Self-Employment programme for the Urban Poor;

(b) which agency will screen the applications;

(c) what are the possible ways to recover the loaned amount; and

(d) whether local administration, legislative or some such agencies will have any role to play in the whole scheme; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) to (d) The Scheme for the Self Employment Programme for urban poor (SEPUP) has launched from September 1, 1986. The scheme is applicable to all cities and towns having population of more than 10,000 as per 1981 census and not covered by the Integrated Rural Development Programme. The scheme will be implemented by selected branches of public sector banks. Under the scheme a borrower will be eligible for a loan upto Rs. 5,000/- at an interest rate of 10 per cent per annum. The Central Government will provide capital subsidy of 25 per cent to the banks. Under the scheme financial assistance will be provided through banks to the beneficiaries for undertaking ventures like rickshaw pulling, carpentry, fruit vending, tailoring, shoe-shining welding etc. The selection of beneficiaries is to be done by banks through a Committee of bankers to be constituted in each city/town by the public sector bank having lead responsibility for the district in which the city/town is located. This bank will